

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Oct. 2, 1914.

Doctor John M. Thomas,
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

I have just had a long talk with our Mr. Milo Lyman and am quite a little surprised at what he has been telling me. To be really frank with you, he was a little disappointed, I might say irritated, when Mr. Collens asked him if he could build the staging by which he could put up or construct the spire to the chapel. He said, "after he had asked me that question, I felt I would not say very much more to him", and thus you noticed that he closed his mouth right then and there. Now he comes to me this morning and says that there would be no question whatever about his being able to build that chapel and he says under the circumstances he would like to do it and will simply charge me just exactly what we are paying him here, but that I should pay him for his board up there, which will be reasonable, and his carfare backwards and forwards, and he would have to come home every Saturday; and he goes on and gives me a long history of what he should advise doing and has told me some things that I must confess I didn't know very much about whatever. The long story is in substance that he says he will guarantee to save us the commissions that these other men expect to make, and in addition he also says that he will save us the stealage which will be made out of the building, and guarantee a better building than we had before. Now, I think the next time we meet, that we had better have Mr. Lyman with us and with just your committee there, consisting of Doctor Brainerd, Judge Weeks and yourself, to see Mr. Lyman and he will talk freely with us, and you can be assured that he won't say that he

(J. M. T. #2)

can put up that chapel without he is capable of doing every part of it. He hasn't talked with me this freely at any time, but he was a little bit startled when Mr. Collens asked him if he knew how to build the staging for the purpose of erecting the spire. He says he doesn't want any architect fussing around him - if he will give him his plans; and he states in addition that he should want some of these plans changed in his opinion quite a little from what they are to-day. He says no ordinary man from his plans could make out a bill of timber without quite a little work, unless they were very very familiar with the structure to be made.

I simply give you this in a hurried way and wish you would consider the same and let me hear from you. I should be specially pleased to know what Mr. Partridge says as to the marble and I shall also take it up with Mr. Bowker to know what his views are.

Yours very truly,

in haste
John A. Ward